Literature search

A systematic literature search was performed using PubMed and Embase for studies that evaluated the care pathway for pulmonary fibrosis patients, published between January 2010 and March 2018. For this search the following (MeSH) terms were used: ("idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis" OR "pulmonary fibrosis" OR "interstitial lung disease") AND ("care pathway" OR care OR barrier OR need OR unmet need). Additionally, references of included articles were checked to identify other potentially relevant articles.

This search retrieved 1094 articles and 17 articles were added after checking references. These 1111 articles were screened on title and abstract by three authors (DB, CM and LP). 145 potentially relevant articles have been fully assessed by the reviewers, and in case of disagreement the article has been discussed until consensus was reached. Non-English articles and abstracts were excluded. After exclusion of studies not related to the topic, 22 articles were included (see flowchart in figure 1).